

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A hermetic compressor comprising:

an electric driving element;

a compressing element driven by the electric driving element; and

a closed vessel for housing the electric driving element and the compressing element,

wherein the compressing element comprises:

a shaft having an eccentric shaft portion, a spindle portion provided at a bottom surface of the eccentric shaft portion, and an auxiliary shaft portion provided at a top surface of the eccentric shaft portion so as to be coaxial with the spindle portion;

a cylinder block provided with a compression chamber;

a main bearing provided on the cylinder block so as to support the spindle portion;

an auxiliary bearing provided on the cylinder block so as to support the auxiliary shaft portion;

a piston reciprocating in the compression chamber; and

a connecting member for connecting the piston and the eccentric shaft portion;

wherein a first balance weight is provided on the auxiliary shaft portion at a top end of the eccentric shaft portion;

wherein a second balance weight is provided on the spindle portion at a bottom end of the eccentric shaft portion; and

wherein the first balance weight is coupled to the auxiliary shaft portion by a separate member having a head portion and a base portion, the diameter of the base portion being smaller than the diameter of the head portion, the auxiliary shaft portion being provided with a hole

through which the base portion passes, the separate member being arranged between the first balance weight and the auxiliary shaft portion so ~~as to be~~ that the base portion is fixed ~~in contact~~ with the first balance weight and the head portion is in contact with the auxiliary shaft portion.

2. (Previously Presented) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein the separate member is a screw, and wherein the auxiliary shaft portion and the first balance weight are coupled to each other by the screw so as to be fixed.

3. (Previously Presented) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein the separate member is a rivet, and wherein the auxiliary shaft portion and the first balance weight are coupled to each other by the rivet so as to be fixed.

4. (Previously Presented) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein the auxiliary shaft portion and the first balance weight are provided with a concave part and a convex part, respectively, such that the concave part and the convex part fit together so as to position the first balance weight.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 1, wherein the

main bearing is coupled with the cylinder block by a fastening member.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 2, wherein the auxiliary shaft portion includes a sliding portion within the auxiliary bearing, ~~and a hole through which the screw passes,~~ wherein a distance between a top end of the sliding portion and a top end of the auxiliary shaft portion is no less than 1/2 of a diameter of the hole, and wherein a distance between a bottom end of the sliding portion and a bottom end of the auxiliary shaft portion is no less than 1/2 of the diameter of the hole.

10. (Currently Amended) A hermetic compressor as defined in Claim 3, wherein the auxiliary shaft portion includes a sliding portion within the auxiliary bearing, ~~and a hole through which the rivet passes,~~ wherein a distance between a top end of the sliding portion and a top end of the auxiliary shaft portion is no less than 1/2 of a diameter of the hole, and wherein a distance between a bottom end of the sliding portion and a bottom end of the auxiliary shaft portion is no less than 1/2 of the diameter of the hole.